

Allegany

County Agricultural Profile

Allegany County's 272,460 acres are mountainous and picturesque with elevations ranging from less than 600 to nearly 3,000 feet. Farms dot its mountains and narrow valleys. The ruggedness of the terrain dictates a pastoral agriculture and livestock production, principally beef cattle, is the major farm enterprise.

- Number of Farms 238
- Avg. Size (acres) 179
- Land in Farms (acres) 41,928

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Cattle - \$1,096,000
2. Dairy - \$961,000
3. Hay - \$315,000
4. Vegetables - \$99,000
5. Corn - \$95,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$3,322,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 23

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 6 properties covering 1,008 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 1 property covering 183 acres

➤ **Equine Industry:** 270 horses valued at \$685,000 are at 120 locations on 1,300 acres with 240 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, four markets reported a total of 74 market days accounting for \$223,000 in sales and 28,500 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$18,333 Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 4

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 164 forms covering 15,406 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$142,073 for 45 projects.

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$406,679

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 3

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 896

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** S & S Maple Camp, Potomac Farms Dairy

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-777-1747 ext. 4
Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-724-3320

Anne Arundel

County Agricultural Profile

Agricultural production on more than 34,000 acres of county farmland serves the county's 490,000 residents with products including nursery, fruit, soybeans, corn, hay, vegetables, and wheat.

- Number of Farms 412
- Avg. Size (acres) 84
- Land in Farms (acres) 34,679

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997)

1. Nursery - \$4,106,000
2. Tobacco - \$1,777,000
3. Corn - \$1,282,000
4. Soybeans - \$1,039,000
5. Vegetables - \$683,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$12.6 million

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 20

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 98 properties covering 9,403 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 34 properties covering 4,242 acres

➤ **Equine Industry:** 4,590 horses valued at \$27,035,000 are at 1,330 locations on 8,900 acres with 2,320 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, six markets reported a total of 174 market days accounting for 65,760 customer visits and \$742,700 in sales. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$6,736 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 5

➤ **Vinyards:** 4

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 209 forms covering 17,170 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$39,592 for 27 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$480,032

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 5975

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 48

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Chef Cook's BBQ Sauce, Horizon Dairy, Brandy Farms Stuffed Hams

Soil Conservation District: 410-222-7822
Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-222-6757

Baltimore

County Agricultural Profile

About 80 percent of the county's 390,000 acres is located within the piedmont plateau with gently rolling hills, while the remaining 20 percent is in the coastal plain region with flat sandy soils. The average value of land and building per farm is \$456,780 with land values of \$4,742 per acre. Baltimore County has a very diverse agriculture and ranks fourth in the state in vegetable acres harvested.

- Number of Farms 781
- Avg. Size (acres) 97
- Land in Farms (acres) 75,795

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Nursery - \$22,675,000
2. Dairy - \$6,664,000
3. Vegetables - \$4,569,000
4. Corn - \$3,417,000
5. Soybeans - \$2,385,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$51,179,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 12

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 345 properties covering 32,212 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 160 properties covering 17,888 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 12 on 1,471 acres, \$5.2 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 10,630 horses valued at \$121,800,000 are at 2,200 locations on 31,200 acres with 4,200 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, all five markets reported being open a total of 104 days, accounting for \$490,200 in sales from 47,400 shopping visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$23,734 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 7

➤ **Wineries:** 3 **Vinyards:** 6

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 8,016

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 313 forms covering 39,592 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$98,466

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$580,268

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 43

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Toto's Gourmet Products, Watercolor Lavender Farm, Weber's Cider Mill Farm, Baltimore Coffee and Tea Co., Cloverland-Greenspring Dairy, Kirchmayr Chocolatier, McCormick, Inc.

Soil Conservation District: 410-666-1188 ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-666-1024

Calvert

County Agricultural Profile

With a population of almost 74,563, Calvert is the fastest growing county in Maryland. Farms are generally very small and often combine with non-farm income. Corn, soybeans and tobacco occupy much of the farmland. Small-scale fruit and vegetable production for local marketing, beef herds, feeder pigs and market hogs are important enterprises on some farms.

- Number of Farms 349
- Avg. Size (acres) 96
- Land in Farms (acres) 33,450

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Tobacco - \$3,385,000
2. Corn - \$951,000
3. Vegetables - \$822,000
4. Wheat - \$368,000
5. Cattle - \$283,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$7,704,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 22

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 55 properties covering 6,842 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 33 properties covering 4,262 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 2 on 122 acres, \$1.2 million

➤ **Equine Industry:** 1,510 horses valued at \$9,980,000 are at 420 locations on 3,500 acres with 750 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market was open 76 days and accounted for \$100,000 in sales from 10,250 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$13,499 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 2

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 888

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 132 forms covering 12,471 acres.

➤ **Vinyards:** 4

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$102,987 for 30 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$642,010

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 18

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum, Pond Fishing at Hutchins Pond and Poplar's Farm

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-535-1521 ext 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-535-3662

Caroline

County Agricultural Profile

Of Caroline's total land area of 204,898 acres, 54 percent is used for agricultural purposes. Industries are largely agricultural and employ many of the county's 29,772 inhabitants. Ranking first in the state in 2001 for vegetable acreage; Caroline has earned the name "The Green Garden County of Maryland." The county ranked first in the state in the production of barley, third in wheat and soybeans, and fifth for corn.

- Number of Farms 525
- Avg. Size (acres) 212
- Land in Farms (acres) 111,316

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$61,094,000 4. Corn - \$5,367,000
2. Soybeans - \$9,234,000 5. Wheat - \$3,754,000
3. Vegetables - \$5,707,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$95,120,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 5

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 314 properties covering 41,790 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 182 properties covering 25,250 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 13 on 1,768 acres, \$1.3 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 1,310 horses valued at \$7,290,000 are at 260 locations on 3,300 acres with 530 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market reported being open 15 days accounting for \$9,125 in sales from 1,825 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$6,472 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 1

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 477

➤ **Vinyards:** 1

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 381 forms covering 92,966 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$544,726 for 211 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$303,423

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 28

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Pick Your Own Strawberries, Frase Farm, Wing's Landing Farm

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-479-1202, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-479-4030

Carroll

County Agricultural Profile

With 287,458 acres Carroll is the 9th largest county in the state. Over 54 percent of the land area is devoted to farm uses. Carroll County has a strong and diverse grain and livestock agriculture. It ranked third in the state for milk production in 2001 and is a leading table egg producer. Fruit and vegetable production is rising due to more metropolitan markets, as well as the increasing value of county land.

- Number of Farms 1,041
- Avg. Size (acres) 154
- Land in Farms (acres) 160,180

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value:

1. Dairy - \$21,656,000 4. Nursery - \$6,813,000
2. Poultry - \$12,261,000 5. Corn - \$5,060,000
3. Cattle - \$8,106,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$71,272,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 7

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 423 properties covering 50,631 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 293 properties covering 36,164 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 19 on 1,736 acres, \$5.1 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 5,730 horses valued at \$31,735,000 are at 1,290 locations on 14,700 acres with 2,430 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, three markets reported being open a total of 52 days accounting for \$247,960 in sales from 10,085 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$9,042 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 3

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 1,933

➤ **Wineries:** 4 **Vinyards:** 11

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 507 forms covering 93,142 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$827,028 for 290 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$226,799

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 11

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Baugher Enterprises, Carroll County Farm Museum, Jill's Jams and Jellies

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-848-8200, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-386-2760

toll free 888-326-9645

Agriculture Marketing Office: 410-386-2070

Cecil

County Agricultural Profile

Cecil County comprises 222,824 acres and in 2000, had 85,951 residents, up 20.5 percent from 1990. About 37.7 percent of the county's land is farmland. Much of the agricultural land is devoted to cash grain and dairy farms. Crops include corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, barley, tree fruits, vegetables and berries. The county is well adapted for raising horses and has several large thoroughbred farms and many smaller farms producing horses for racing and pleasure.

- Number of Farms 464
- Avg. Size (acres) 185
- Land in Farms (acres) 85,702

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$20,659,000
2. Nursery - \$11,574,000
3. Dairy - \$6,723,000
4. Corn - \$4,079,000
5. Soybeans - \$2,879,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$59,052,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 11

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 135 properties covering 18,869 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 75 properties covering 12,255 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 14 on 2,020 acres, \$3.5 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 6,580 horses valued at \$68,345,000 are at 900 locations on 15,300 acres with 1,580 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, two markets reported a total of 40 market days accounting for \$3,400 in sales from 570 customer visits.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 5

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 1,526

➤ **Vinyards:** 1

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 282 forms covering 48,988 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$439,534 for 141 projects.

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$416,958

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 25

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Milburn Orchards, Walnut Springs Farm, Sinking Springs Herb Farm, Rumbleway Farm.

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-398-4411, ext. 3

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-996-5280

Agriculture Marketing Office: 410-996-6292

Charles

County Agricultural Profile

Agricultural lands in Charles County occupy approximately 19 percent of the county's total land area. Of the land in farms, 30 percent of it is woodland. Tobacco is, and has been for over 300 years, the major cash crop. It is produced on 28 percent of the farms, and annual production is about 1.3 million pounds. Other field crops include corn, soybeans, and small grain. These crops are sold primarily as cash grains, but also support animal enterprises. Swine is the most important livestock enterprise.

- Number of Farms 410
- Avg. Size (acres) 136
- Land in Farms (acres) 55,928

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Tobacco - \$3,705,000
2. Soybeans - \$1,742,000
3. Corn - \$1,421,000
4. Nursery - \$802,000
5. Cattle - \$772,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$10,816,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 21

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 122 properties covering 17,931 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 22 properties covering 3,474 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 4 on 565 acres, \$1.5 million

➤ **Equine Industry:** 1,640 horses valued at \$7,375,000 are at 490 locations on 4,300 acres with 1,110 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, two markets reported a total of 93 market days accounting for \$103,000 in sales from 10,500 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$11,867 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 2

➤ **Weighing/Measuring Devices Inspected:** 1,808

➤ **Vinyards:** 1

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 210 forms covering 26,254 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$89,950 for 61 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$563,795

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 14

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Hydromont Berry Farm

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-934-9588, ext. 3

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-934-5403

Dorchester

County Agricultural Profile

Agriculture provides the major economic base for the county with the greatest percentage of land devoted to field crops, much of which goes to provide feed for the shore's livestock industry. Many vegetable growers sell their large volume of produce through auction blocks, wholesale markets or processing plants. Smaller fresh market operations sell at local road side stands or the Cambridge farmers' market. Because of its proximity to the bay and rivers, Dorchester also has a strong seafood industry.

- Number of Farms 297
- Avg. Size (acres) 414
- Land in Farms (acres) 122,928

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$47,074,000 4. Corn - \$6,944,000
2. Soybeans - \$12,874,000 5. Wheat - \$3,588,000
3. Vegetables - \$7,032,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$82,391,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 6

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 107 properties covering 15,918 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 37 properties covering 6,475 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 21 on 2,874 acres, \$2.6 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 460 horses valued at \$5,280,000 are at 160 locations on 1,200 acres with 240 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market reported being open a total of 48 days accounting for \$70,250 in sales from 7,025 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$6,788 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 1

➤ **Weights & Measures Inspected:** 735

➤ **Vinyards:** 1

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 230 forms covering 80,494 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$873,474 for 286 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**

1994-2003: \$598,842

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 13

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Bloch & Guggenheimer (B&G Pickles), Brooks Barrel Co.

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-228-5640, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-228-8800

Maryland Department of Agriculture
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401
 410-841-5881 www.mda.state.md.us

Frederick

County Agricultural Profile

With 424,283 acres, Frederick County is the second largest county in the state. A total of 51 percent of the county's land is devoted to agriculture despite rapid suburban growth. Frederick has a diverse crop and livestock agriculture. It ranks first in the state in milk production. In 2001, there were 26,000 head of milk cows in the county producing 388 million pounds of milk. Fruits and vegetables from the county are well-known for excellent quality.

- Number of Farms 1,304
- Avg. Size (acres) 166
- Land in Farms (acres) 215,927

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Dairy - \$52,561,000 4. Soybeans - \$4,194,000
2. Cattle - \$12,021,000 5. Nursery - \$3,938,000
3. Poultry - \$11,106,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$101,660,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 3

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 186 properties covering 26,852 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 96 properties covering 15,465 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 8 on 1,064 acres, \$1.9 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 8,290 horses valued at \$47,310,000 are at 2,180 locations on 22,000 acres with 3,570 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, four markets reported a total of 74 market days accounting for \$199,300 in sales from 20,050 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$29,629 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 9

➤ **Weights & Measures Inspected:** 2,551

➤ **Vinyards:** 12

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 716 forms covering 122,310 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$1,251,629 for 349 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**

1994-2003: \$508,175

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 22

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Catoctin Mountain Orchard, Hillside Turkey Farm, McCutcheon's, South Mountain Creamery, Crumland Farm Corn Maze

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-695-2803, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-694-1594
 Agriculture Marketing Office: 301-631-3037

Maryland Department of Agriculture
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401
 410-841-5881 www.mda.state.md.us

Garrett

County Agricultural Profile

Garrett County is the western most county in the state and has an average elevation of 2,500 feet. The county population of 29,846 swells with seasonal tourists. Garrett is basically a dairy and livestock area because of the climate, growing season, soil type and topography. It presently ranks fifth in the state in dairy production with the bulk of milk finding a Pennsylvania market. Maple syrup production is still a unique industry of the county, with 10 to 15 sugar bushes still operating.

- Number of Farms 649
- Avg. Size (acres) 166
- Land in Farms (acres) 107,695

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Dairy - \$11,464,000 4. Poultry - \$745,000
2. Cattle - \$6,018,000 5. Corn - \$486,000
3. Hay - \$1,057,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$20,997,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 17

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 54 properties covering 7,453 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 34 properties covering 4,764 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 3 on 386 acres, \$486,157

➤ **Equine Industry:** 1,410 horses valued at \$2,900,000 are at 370 locations on 3,400 acres with 820 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, two markets reported a total of 26 market days accounting for \$93,000 in sales from 4,800 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$11,754 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 1

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 709

➤ **Wineries:** 1 **Vinyards:** 2

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 332 forms covering 44,967 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$242,421 for 15 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$341,938

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 17

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Yoders, Inc., Cove Run Farm Corn Maze, Deep Creek Cellars-Wine

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-334-6951

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-334-6960

Agriculture Marketing Office: 301-334-6964

Maryland Department of Agriculture

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401

410-841-5881 www.mda.state.md.us

Harford

County Agricultural Profile

Thirty-three percent or just over 94,000 acres of the county is devoted to agriculture. A large population increase in the past 10 years, has created many pressures for agriculture. County farming includes traditional and nontraditional industries including livestock, dairy, grains, fruits, and vegetables as well as specialty items such as cut flowers, container flowers, hanging baskets, wine, honey and Christmas trees.

- Number of Farms 649
- Avg. Size (acres) 166
- Land in Farms (acres) 107,695

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Cattle - \$8,970,000 4. Nursery - \$5,298,000
2. Dairy - \$8,645,000 5. Soybeans - \$2,041,000
3. Corn - \$5,554,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$38,807,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 14

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 252 properties covering 26,805 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 106 properties covering 11,958 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 5 on 709 acres, \$2.9 million

➤ **Equine Industry:** 7,390 horses valued at \$73,115,000 are at 1,360 locations on 18,400 acres with 2,160 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, four markets reported a total of 82 market days accounting for \$208,000 in sales from 26,325 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$10,096 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 3

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 3,092

➤ **Wineries:** 1 **Vinyards:** 4

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 309 forms covering 51,696 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$484,618 for 142 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$275,983

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 29

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Cheese: Broom's Bloom Dairy and Mt. Felix Dairy, Brad's Produce, Fiore Wines, Lohr's Orchard, Belvedere Farm PYO Flowers

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-838-6181, ext. 3

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-638-3255

Agriculture Marketing Office: 410-638-3059

Maryland Department of Agriculture

50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401

410-841-5881 www.mda.state.md.us

Howard

County Agricultural Profile

Howard County is the second smallest county in the state having a total land area of 161,394 acres of which approximately 25 percent is land in farms.

Agricultural sales are among the top five industries in the county. Important commodities include horticulture, dairy, livestock, corn, small grains, hay, tree fruits, small fruits and vegetables. Pick-your-own operations, roadside stands and on-the-farm markets are valuable sales outlets for some commodities.

- Number of Farms 318
- Avg. Size (acres) 125
- Land in Farms (acres) 39,846

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Nursery - \$8,664,000
2. Dairy - \$3,257,000
3. Cattle - \$1,356,000
4. Corn - \$1,072,000
5. Wheat - \$425,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$19,610,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 18

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 50 properties covering 6,242 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 28 properties covering 3,968 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 1 on 15 acres, \$116,519

➤ **Equine Industry:** 5,190 horses valued at \$61,265,000 are at 1,200 locations on 11,200 acres with 2,280 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, two markets reported a total of 51 market days accounting for \$188,800 in sales from 14,400 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$6,234 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 8

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 2,585

➤ **Vinyards:** 4

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 141 forms covering 18,118 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$62,649 for 41 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$517,767

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 50

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Nixon's Farm, Larriland Farm, Jack and Jill Ice Cream, Washington Quality Foods, Clark's Elioak Farm

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-489-7987

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-313-2707

Agriculture Marketing Office: 410-313-6500

Kent

County Agricultural Profile

Kent County is located on the northern Eastern Shore with a land area of 178,843 acres. Sixty-six percent of its generally flat topography is in agriculture. In 2000, Kent County had a population of 19,197 with many residing in the county seat of Chestertown. The county has very important and diverse agriculture, ranking second in the state for corn, fourth for wheat, and fifth for soybeans.

- Number of Farms 314
- Avg. Size (acres) 374
- Land in Farms (acres) 117,526

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Nursery - \$15,154,000
2. Poultry - \$13,155,000
3. Dairy - \$10,882,000
4. Corn - \$7,088,000
5. Soybeans - \$5,883,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$60,957,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 9

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 105 properties covering 19,588 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 57 properties covering 10,467 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 4 on 523 acres, \$1.1 million

➤ **Equine Industry:** 1,610 horses valued at \$29,025,000 are at 170 locations on 4,000 acres with 410 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market reported being open a total of 39 days accounting for \$260,000 in sales from 17,300 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$4,983 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 7

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 402

➤ **Vinyards:** 2

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 253 forms covering 93,873 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$879,860 for 296 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$420,519

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 22

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Eve's Cheese, Flower Moon Soaps, Grill Meister Sauces

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-778-5150, ext. 3

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-778-1661

Montgomery

County Agricultural Profile

With a land area of 316,527 acres and contiguous with Washington, D.C. and the Potomac river, Montgomery County is often referred to as the “bedroom of Washington.” Approximately 45 percent of farmers are full time, but over one-half of the farmland is owned by non-farmers. With a high percentage of part-time farmers, there is a large horse population and a growing fresh produce industry that is marketed directly to the consumer.

- Number of Farms 526
- Avg. Size (acres) 147
- Land in Farms (acres) 77,266

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Nursery - \$10,957,000
2. Dairy - \$3,687,000
3. Soybeans - \$2,717,000
4. Corn - \$2,653,000
5. Cattle - \$1,993,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$28,563,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 15

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 33 properties covering 5,948 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 17 properties covering 2,852 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 5 on 547 acres, \$2.1 million

➤ **Equine Industry:** 8,470 horses valued at \$60,555,000 are at 2,590 locations on 17,700 acres with 4,070 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, three of eight markets reported a total of 83 market days accounting for \$833,200 in sales from 55,925 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$45,725 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 4

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 7,869

➤ **Wineries:** 2 **Vinyards:** 6

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 263 forms covering 93,873 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$152,911 for 52 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$120,140

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 130

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Agricultural History Farm Park, Butler's and Lewis' Orchards, Ferrante Brothers/Nicks Sausages, Honest Tea
Soil Conservation District Office: 301-590-2855
Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-590-9638
Agricultural Marketing Office: 301-590-2830

Prince George's

County Agricultural Profile

The agricultural land area of Prince George's County lies south of Annapolis Road/Rt. 450 and east of the Capital Beltway (I-95 and I-495). The population of the county is the second highest in the state and is rising while the number of farms in the county decreased 14 percent from 1992 to 1997.

Nursery and greenhouse crops, and vegetables are the major crops in the county. The county's close proximity to the metropolitan Washington, D.C. area encourages direct farm marketing

- Number of Farms 473
- Avg. Size (acres) 101
- Land in Farms (acres) 47,572

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Nursery - \$8,679,000
2. Vegetables - \$3,618,000
3. Soybeans - \$931,000
4. Corn - \$808,000
5. Cattle - \$545,000

Total Value of All Commodities: \$18,708,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 19

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 1 property covering 123 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 0

➤ **Equine Industry:** 7,420 horses valued at \$63,610,000 are at 1,170 locations on 11,700 acres with 1,860 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, five of six markets reported a total of 125 market days accounting for \$432,900 in sales from 50,500 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$23,772 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 9

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 8,170

➤ **Vinyards:** 1

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 187 forms covering 18,084 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$63,762 for 18 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District 1994-2003:** \$520,609

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 55

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** National Colonial Farm, Cherry Hill Farm, Gemelli, Inc. Italian Soft Cheeses, Murry's, Mick's Soups, Topp's Gourmet Sauce

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-574-5162, ext.3
Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-868-9366

Queen Anne's County Agricultural Profile

Queen Anne's County is located in the north-central part of Maryland's Eastern Shore. The county occupies 238,229 acres, which is partly on the mainland and partly on islands. The county has a diversified agriculture, including small grains, dairy, livestock, vegetables for canning and fresh market, soybeans, corn and wheat. In 2001, Queen Anne's County ranked first in wheat, corn and soybean production and third in barley production. Seafood also is important to the county's economy.

- Number of Farms 419
- Avg. Size (acres) 401
- Land in Farms (acres) 167,957

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$18,935,000 4. Wheat - \$6,725,000
2. Soybeans - \$15,506,000 5. Dairy - \$4,085,000
3. Corn - \$13,108,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$68,736,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 8

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 205 properties covering 33,964 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 119 properties covering 20,604 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 11 on 1,884 acres, \$2 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 2,000 horses valued at \$18,070,000 are at 300 locations on 3,800 acres with 550 people involved, excluding hired labor..

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, the county's first and only market reported a total of 11 market days accounting for \$1,400 in sales from 275 customer visits.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 3

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 837

➤ **Vinyards:** 3

➤ **Nutrient Manangement:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 297 forms covering 18,084 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$575,809 for 287 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**

1994-2003: \$256,958

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 30

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** S.E.W. Friel, Pintail Point, United Shellfish, W.H. Harris Seafood, Wye River, Inc.

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-758-3136, ext. 3

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-758-0166 or toll-free, 1-877-496-8623

St. Mary's County Agricultural Profile

St. Mary's County is located along the shores of the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers. It has 400 miles of waterways and much farmland. With its close and convenient access to Washington, Baltimore, and Richmond, the county has become one of the fastest growing areas in the state. Tobacco remains the leading product. Corn and soybeans are also extensively grown. Seafood is also important to the county.

- Number of Farms 621
- Avg. Size (acres) 116
- Land in Farms (acres) 71,890

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Tobacco - \$9,258,000 4. Cattle - \$1,456,000
2. Soybeans - \$2,977,000 5. Hogs - \$1,345,000
3. Corn - \$1,928,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$21,056,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 16

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 107 properties covering 12,580 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 55 properties covering 5,872 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 12 on 940 acres, \$2.6 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 2,710 horses valued at \$7,540,000 are at 620 locations on 8,600 acres with 1,510 people involved, excluding hired labor..

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, two markets reported a total of 73 or more market days accounting for \$280,000 in sales from 16,330 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$15,374 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 1

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 1,282

➤ **Vinyards:** 4

➤ **Nutrient Manangement:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 361 forms covering 36,152 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$329,037 for 99 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**

1994-2003: \$454,780

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 20

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Corn Mazes at Bowles Farm and Forest Hall Farm,

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-475-8402, ext. 3

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-475-4482

Agriculture Marketing Office: 301-475-4404

Somerset

County Agricultural Profile

Somerset County is the southern-most county on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Only 26 percent of its mostly flat 209,424 acres is classified as farmland, but agriculture is the biggest industry in the county. The seafood, timber, and small industries are also important assets to its economy. Somerset County has a very important and diverse agriculture. The corn, soybeans, broilers, vegetables, livestock, and dairy produced make it rank fourth in agriculture value among Maryland counties.

- Number of Farms 288
- Avg. Size (acres) 190
- Land in Farms (acres) 54,823

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$82,261,000
2. Soybeans - \$4,580,000
3. Corn - \$4,220,000
4. Vegetables - \$2,110,000
5. Wheat - \$1,267,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$96,532,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 4

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 41 properties covering 5,681 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 22 properties covering 3,320 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 4 on 395 acres, \$398,825

➤ **Equine Industry:** 280 horses valued at \$800,000 are at 80 locations on 500 acres with 130 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market reported a total of 23 market days accounting for \$55,900 in sales from 5,590 customer visits.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 2

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 332

➤ **Vineries:** 1

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 208 forms covering 40,136 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$494,348 for 123 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation Districts 1994-2003:** \$195,409

➤ **Nurseries Inspected by MDA:** 7

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Byrd's Seafood, J.C.W. Tawes Company, John T. Handy Co., Metompink Bay Oyster, Smith Island Crabmeat Co-op

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-651-1575, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-651-1350

Talbot

County Agricultural Profile

With 602 miles of waterfront, Talbot County is believed to have the longest shoreline of any county in the continental United States. With 109,572 acres classified as land in farms, cash grain soybeans, corn and winter small grains are the main crops. Broiler production also contributes significantly to agricultural income. Seafood industry is second only to agriculture as the county's economic base. Recreational activities such as hunting, fishing and boating attract many visitors to the county each year.

- Number of Farms 240
- Avg. Size (acres) 457
- Land in Farms (acres) 109,572

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$21,095,000
2. Soybeans - \$9,066,000
3. Corn - \$7,815,000
4. Wheat - \$4,187,000
5. Dairy - \$2,459,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$48,530,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 13

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 95 properties covering 14,116 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 48 properties covering 8,142 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 6 on 877 acres, \$1.8 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 1,930 horses valued at \$8,375,000 are at 700 locations on 4,200 acres with 1,600 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one of two markets reported a total of 26 market days accounting for \$67,300 in sales from 3,500 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$10,924 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 3

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 776

➤ **Wineries:** 1 **Vineries:** 5

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 158 forms covering 80,860 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$445,793 for 167 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation Districts 1994-2003:** \$276,330

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 24

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Little Ashby Vineyards, Harrison Oyster Co., Sea Watch Int'l.

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-822-1577, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-822-1244

Washington

County Agricultural Profile

Washington County ranks ninth in size among the 23 counties, with 293,223 acres in land area, and is the heart of the fruit industry in Maryland. Apple and peach growers harvest over 190,000 trees annually. Dairying is the principle livestock enterprise. Milk cows number 16,000 head, ranking second in the state. Cereal grains are also important to the county.

- Number of Farms 768
- Avg. Size (acres) 164
- Land in Farms (acres) 126,292

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Dairy - \$35,937,000
2. Cattle - \$5,283,000
3. Poultry - \$4,621,000
4. Fruit - \$4,113,000
5. Soybeans - \$2,747,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$60,604,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 10

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 210 properties covering 28,688 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 46 properties covering 8,135 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 5 on 803 acres, \$1.7 mil.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 4,460 horses valued at \$12,295,000 are at 1,560 locations on 10,200 acres with 4,090 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market reported a total of 33 market days accounting for \$87,200 in sales from 10,900 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$13,907 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 3

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 1,816

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 465 forms covering 83,572 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$530,071 for 98 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**

1994-2003: \$604,233

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 40

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Cool's Fishing Pond, Lewis Orchards, Bee Tree Farms Honey

Soil Conservation District Office: 301-797-6821, ext. 3
Maryland Cooperative Extension: 301-791-1304

Wicomico

County Agricultural Profile

The Wicomico River leading to Salisbury is a main transportation route for goods distributed throughout the county. Total land area in the county is 241,415 acres. The bulk of its cropland is used for corn and soybean production, much of which goes toward sustaining the broiler industry. Over 76 million broilers were sold in 1997, making the county number one in the state and 10th in the United States. Nursery and vegetable production, both fresh market and processing, are also important

- Number of Farms 580
- Avg. Size (acres) 156
- Land in Farms (acres) 90,656

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$154,348,000
2. Nursery - \$9,936,000
3. Corn - \$7,172,000
4. Soybeans - \$6,149,000
5. Vegetables - \$3,454,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$186,294,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 1

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 73 properties covering 9,838 acres
Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
Easements: 40 properties covering 5,281 acres
2002 Easement Purchases: 1 on 150 acres, \$161,459.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 2,260 horses valued at \$9,860,000 are at 650 locations on 4,400 acres with 1,220 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, one market reported a total of 35 market days accounting for \$66,000 in sales from 7,340 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$13,492 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 6

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 1,609

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 426 forms covering 62,042 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$884,463 for 261 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**

1994-2003: \$325,505

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 35

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Vatore's Candy, Oakleys Farm Market, Strawberry Fields Forever

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-546-4777, ext. 3
Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-749-6141

Worcester

County Agricultural Profile

Worcester County is the eastern-most county on Maryland's Eastern Shore and the only one bordering the Atlantic Ocean. The 2000 population was 46,543, which increases dramatically during the summer tourist season. The economy of the county is, to a large percent, dependent upon the agriculture industry. The county covers an area of 302,879 acres of which 37 percent is classified as farmland. By far the greatest contributor to agriculture is the poultry industry. The county accounts for about 20 percent of chickens sold in the state

- Number of Farms 415
- Avg. Size (acres) 269
- Land in Farms (acres) 111,835

➤ Top Five Commodities by Value (1997):

1. Poultry - \$119,348,000
2. Corn - \$12,663,000
3. Soybeans - \$8,120,000
4. Wheat - \$2,019,000
5. Hogs - \$1,058,000

Total Value of Commodities: \$147,553,000

County Ranking by Value of Commodities: 2

➤ Agricultural Land Preservation Programs:

County Districts: 45 properties covering 6,444 acres
 Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation
 Easements: 25 properties covering 3,653 acres
 2002 Easement Purchases: 6 on 342 acres, \$257,638.

➤ **Equine Industry:** 960 horses valued at \$5,995,000 are at 180 locations on 2,200 acres with 330 people involved, excluding hired labor.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, two markets reported a total of 120 market days accounting for \$130,000 in sales from 13,075 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$3,354 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Certified Organic Producers/Handlers:** 1

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices Inspected:** 1,194

➤ **Nutrient Management:** Plan Compliance on 1/31/03 was 298 forms covering 84,681 acres.

➤ **2002 Ag Cost Share to Farmers:** \$622,600 for 204 projects

➤ **State Funds to Soil Conservation District**
1994-2003: \$241,465

➤ **Nurseries Inspected:** 8

➤ **Agribusiness/tourism Sampler:** Outback Medic Emu products, Mid-Atlantic Foods

Soil Conservation District Office: 410-632-5439, ext. 3
 Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-632-1972

Maryland Department of Agriculture
 50 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Annapolis, MD 21401
 410-841-5881 www.mda.state.md.us

Baltimore City

Agricultural Profile

On the surface, one may not think of Baltimore City as an agricultural area. In fact, Baltimore City is not counted in the Maryland Agricultural Statistics Service's enumeration, the state's primary source of agricultural data. Baltimore City may not grow many traditional crops, but it is a vital marketplace for the state's farm community and is home to Pimlico Racetrack with hundreds of race horses. Community gardens and horticulture also are popular.

Manufacturing, packaging, distribution, and transportation facilities in the city are critical for getting products from the farm to consumers around the nation and the world. Food processing companies may or may not use Maryland farm products, but either way are important to the state's economy.

The support services that the city provides for farmers creates thousands of jobs. As recently as 1998, Maryland State Data Center shows that more than 45,000 city residents had jobs in agricultural services, fishing, forestry and related fields.

Of 33,000 employees in the manufacturing sector, the Baltimore Development Corp. notes 5,000 employees working in food and "kindred products" jobs and another 400 in lumber and wood products jobs. The Port of Baltimore has an additional 950 companies and 17,500 employees, among them freight forwarders, warehouse and distributors who handle agricultural and food products among many others.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture has a large role in Baltimore City, primarily through its consumer services and regulatory programs.

➤ **Farmers' Markets:** In 2002, five of six markets reported a total of 116 market days accounting for \$2,230,500 in sales from 225,700 customer visits. Seniors and WIC clients redeemed \$158,941 in Farmers' Market Nutrition Program coupons.

➤ **Weights & Measures Devices such as grocery, truck and railway scales and fuel pumps inspected in 2002:** 5,991

➤ **Gypsy Moth Suppression in 2002:** 135 acres

➤ **West Nile Surveillance:** 18 sites, 3582 mosquitoes

➤ **Companies Licensed to Apply Pesticides:** 163

➤ **Veterinary Hospitals Licensed:** 18

➤ **Agribusiness Sampler:** Meyer Seed Co., Lisa Anne's Toffee Apples, Denzers Food Products, Goetze's Candy Co., Holly Poultry, Lee's Ice Cream, M & I Seafood Distributors, Really Raw Honey Co.

Maryland Cooperative Extension: 410-396-1753

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Maryland Department of Agriculture

.....AgencyProfile

Maryland agricultural industries provide food, fiber and value-added products that account for \$17.8 billion of the state's economy. Through its activities, the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) promotes agriculture industries, preserves farmland and the environment, and provides health, safety and economic protection for Maryland consumers.

The agency was established in 1973 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary. The following is a snapshot of MDA and a sampling of its services.

► **Budget** - \$85 million

► **Staff** - 504 employees

► **Organization:** Four primary units: Office of the Secretary; Office of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services; Office of Plant Industries and Pest Management; and the Office of Resource Conservation.

► **Promoting Profitable Agriculture**

- *Seafood Marketing and Aquaculture Production
- *National and International Marketing of agricultural and food products
- *Farmers' Markets and National Farmers' Market Nutrition Program Coupons
- *Agricultural Tourism and Business Development
- *International Agriculture Policy and Relations
- *Maryland Agriculture Commission
- *Turf and Seed Testing and Weed Control

► **Preserving Environment and Farmland**

- *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- *Tributary Strategy Teams and Youth Envirothon
- *Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Fnd
- *Manure Transport and Matching Programs
- *Gypsy Moth Suppression
- *Nursery Inspections and Trapping of Insect Pests
- *Soil Conservation Districts

► **Protecting Consumers**

- *Crabmeat Quality Assurance Program
- *Pesticide Regulation and Licensing
- *Organic Certification
- *Grading of fruit, vegetables, poultry, grain, shell eggs
- *Regulation of pet food, fertilizers, feeds, compost
- *Export Phytosanitary Certificates
- *Fuel Pump and Grocery Scale Inspections
- *Mosquito Control
- *Integrated Pest Management for Schools and Farms
- *Five Animal Health Labs and Veterinary Licensing

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- *Maryland Agriculture Commission
- *Turf and Seed Testing and Weed Control

► **Preserving Environment and Farmland**

- *Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
- *Tributary Strategy Teams and Youth Envirothon
- *Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Fnd
- *Manure Transport and Matching Programs
- *Gypsy Moth Suppression
- *Nursery Inspections and Trapping of Insect Pests
- *Soil Conservation Districts

► **Protecting Consumers**

- *Crabmeat Quality Assurance Program
- *Pesticide Regulation and Licensing
- *Organic Certification
- *Grading of fruit, vegetables, poultry, grain, shell eggs
- *Regulation of pet food, fertilizers, feeds, compost
- *Export Phytosanitary Certificates
- *Fuel Pump and Grocery Scale Inspections
- *Mosquito Control
- *Integrated Pest Management for Schools and Farms
- *Five Animal Health Labs and Veterinary Licensing

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